



Chicago bikers love
Milwaukee Ave. **6**

You might know
@mayoremanuel **8**

Bring on some
March fun! **14**

Timberlake back
in the studio? **22**



Tuesday
MARCH 1, 2011

redeyechicago.com

A Chicago Tribune
publication

★ **FREE** ★

'I AM ON A DRUG. IT'S CALLED CHARLIE SHEEN.'

**WARNING:
SIDE EFFECTS
INCLUDE
DEMANDS FOR
MORE MONEY,
URGE TO SUE
EMPLOYER
PAGES 16-17**



REDEYE ILLUSTRATION

THE BIG TALKERS

More hot topics all the time at redeyechicago.com



Kyra Kyles
redeyechicago.com/kylesfiles
Judge and jury



Brian Moore
redeyechicago.com/sports
Game on



RedEye Royalty
facebook.com/redeyeroyalty
Royal treatment

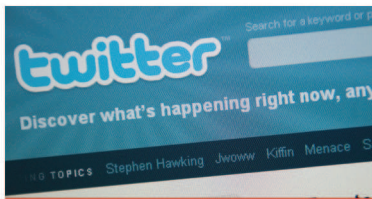


How would you describe Sunday's Oscars broadcast in five words or less?

Kyra (@thekylesfiles):
More everlong than Foo Fighters.

Brian (@redeyesportsguy):
Trying too hard—and failing.

Dave Sorrell (@rookiephenom):
Five hours of endless boredom.



Rihanna and Ciara had a Twitter argument last week. What celeb would you argue with on Twitter?

I'd tag in Ciara for a grudge match with 50 Cent.

LeBron James. But I'm sure he'd miss the point.

Jen Fernicola Ronay (@fernronay):
Charlie Sheen. I'd love to tweet slap him (and real slap him).



Yahoo! Sports says Carlos Boozer will make \$14 million this season. What should he buy for fans?

Two beers per game for every fan of drinking age. His name is Boozer, after all.

Some D. For the fans, for himself, for the Bulls, for the love of God.

Jeremy Capp (@jcapp1538):
Can he buy the Cubs a World Series?



42 26

TODAY'S FORECAST
March=spring is coming soon



WED.
32
23
But not just yet



THU.
39
35
This is not pleasant



FRI.
49
39
Hot Friday in the city



SAT.
40
28
Muddy boots are on

best bets

By Jessica Gallart
jgallart@tribune.com



For Otters and Flounders

Lincoln Hall, 2424 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-525-2501
Get collegiate at The 3 Penny Was Here movie night series, with a double-feature of "Old School" and "Animal House." 7 p.m.

For Cubbies

Harry Caray's, 33 W. Kinzie St. 312-828-0962
Raise your glass for the 13th annual Worldwide Toast to Harry Caray, commemorating the Cubs broadcaster and featuring a tribute to Ron Santo. A rendition of "Take Me Out to the Ballgame," led by the legends' friends and family, will be broadcast on ESPN Radio. 5:55 p.m. No cover.



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OIL AND THE USA

SUPPLY

8M-9M

The U.S. is on track to produce 8 million-9 million barrels of oil a day in 2011. (SOURCES: EIA, IEA)



DEMAND

19M-20M

The U.S. will consume approximately 19 million-20 million barrels of oil a day in 2011. (SOURCES: EIA, IEA)

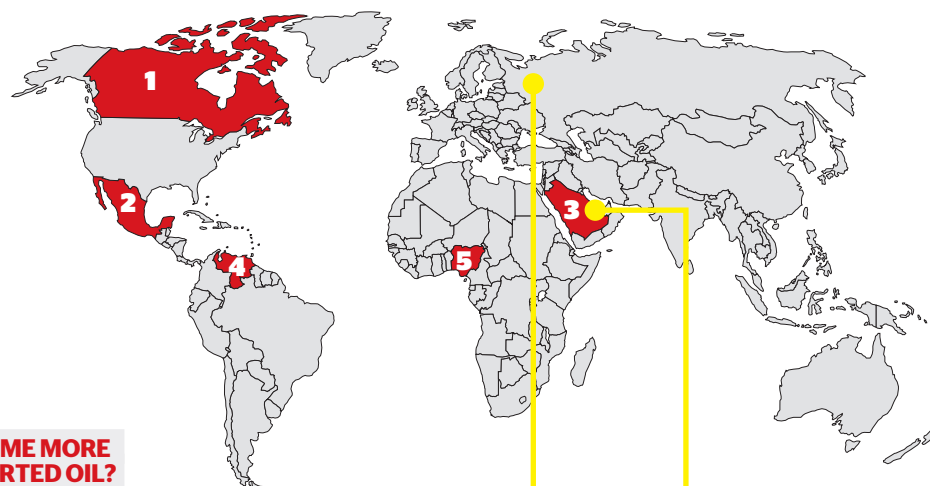
BOTTOM LINE

51-60%

« Despite its relatively large oil production, the U.S. must import 51 percent-60 percent of its needs from other countries.

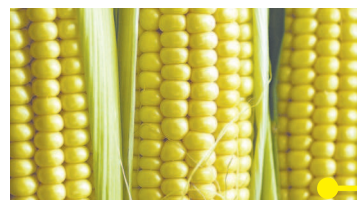
Where in the world does fuel come from?

What precisely does the high blood pressure in the oil markets mean for the U.S.? And, uh, where does the country stand in terms of dependence on foreign oil exactly? Here's a quick primer. **CNN**



IS THE U.S. ON TRACK TO BECOME MORE OR LESS DEPENDENT ON IMPORTED OIL?

For the next few decades, the answer actually is less. The Energy Information Administration (part of the U.S. Dept. of Energy) believes the U.S. will need to import 45 percent of its petroleum in 2035.



WHY THE DECREASE?

It's attributed mostly to an expected rise in biofuels, such as **ethanol**.

3rd

« The U.S. is a huge oil producer; in fact, it is the third-largest oil producer in the world. Only **Russia** and **Saudi Arabia** pump more oil out of the ground.

WHERE DOES THE U.S. GET ITS IMPORTED OIL?

Here are the top five countries in order (numbered on map above)

1. Canada 2. Mexico 3. Saudi Arabia 4. Venezuela 5. Nigeria



« As supply may become harder to manage, world oil demand is expected to keep rising. Countries that now export oil may begin to export less and keep more supply for their own use.

GLOBAL OUTLOOK

» This, as the world depletes the most easy-to-reach oil reserves and may need to use much more energy (and more funds) to reach remaining sources.

2035

« Many experts point out that by 2035 oil prices could be significantly higher.



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**Bloomberg
Businessweek**
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*U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2010-11 Occupational Outlook Handbook

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TALK TO US

How will your commute change in the spring? Send an e-mail to tswartz@tribune.com. Please include your full name, age and neighborhood.

RIDER'S BLOCK

My pledge to ride every CTA bus line continues. I rode the No. 71-71st/South Shore last week and boiled my review down to a tweet. [@tracyswartz](https://twitter.com/tracyswartz) 43 mins from 69th St. Red Line stop to 112th/Torrence. Runs parallel to Metra line to University Park. Stops by South Shore Cultural Center. **Next up:** No. 69-Cumberland/East River.

Float your way past CTA reroutes

At least one Chicago company is glad workers are tearing up Wacker Drive and rerouting CTA buses near the Ogilvie Transportation Center and Union Station.

Gregg Pupecki, director of sales and marketing for the Chicago Water Taxi, said he expects a flood of passengers when his taxis start running in two weeks.

"When we start up this year, I do think we'll have a huge demand because of the Wacker Drive construction," Pupecki told Going Public. "It's a great alternative."

Pupecki said demand was so great last year, the company added a third water taxi to its fleet. The taxis travel along the Chicago River and make four stops: at Michigan Avenue near Trump Tower; between LaSalle and Clark streets; Madison Street near the Ogilvie Transportation Center; and Chinatown near 18th Street.

Ridership in 2010 grew 25 percent to more than 250,000 riders, Pupecki said, and he expects to see another 25 percent boost this year because the Wacker Drive construction project that began in January is slated to affect 13 CTA bus routes until June, at least.

The water taxi company will begin ferrying passengers March 12 for the St. Patrick's Day parade downtown. Regular service will start March 14.

All but two of the CTA bus routes affected by Wacker Drive construction saw their weekday ridership decline last month compared with January 2010.

Between 50 and 100 commuters can fit on the taxis, said Pupecki, who recommends riders show up to the stop on time because the ferries stick to their schedules. Timetables can be found at chicagowatertaxi.com.

The taxi charges \$2 for a single-ride pass for all routes except the Michigan Avenue to Chinatown route, which is \$4. A 10-ride pass costs \$16, and a 31-day pass, which is new this year, costs \$45.

Eating and drinking is allowed on board the ferries. Alcohol is served on the weekends, though Pupecki said the company is "working on" getting alcohol service on the weekdays.

Said Pupecki: "It's a fun, fast and friendly way to get to and from the train station."

Give him a hand?

In his acceptance speech last week, Mayor-elect Rahm Emanuel said he visited "110 'L' stops around the city" during his campaign. Actually, he shook hands at 56 CTA stations, some of them multiple times, according to a list of stops his campaign staff provided GP.

Emanuel's go-to stop during the campaign? The Clark/Lake station, which he visited six times, more than any other stop. Meanwhile, he rarely visited the Green and Pink lines, visiting the former one time exclusively and the latter not at all exclusively. Go to redeyechicago.com/goingpublic to see which stops Emanuel has hit.

CORRECTION Valentino Garavani designed Anne Hathaway's red carpet dress at the Academy Awards. A story on Page 28 of Monday's RedEye listed an incorrect name for the designer.



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chicago

BIKERS' PARADISE

MILWAUKEE AVE. IS WHERE IT'S AT FOR CHICAGO'S PEDAL PUSHERS

Chicago Tribune

And the hottest biking spot in Chicago is

The 600 block of North Milwaukee Avenue?

That's right, according to a new study that has plotted the most popular streets for city cyclists. That residential and commercial stretch between Erie and Ohio streets near the Kennedy Expressway is where it's at. A high of 3,121 bicyclists were counted on a random September day in 2009 as part of the Chicago Department of Transportation's first bike-count study, which was released Monday.

"I definitely have seen it," Sheila McDonald, 38, of West Town said Monday while traveling in the area. "Of all the streets to ride, this is probably one of the safer ones."

Three thousand-plus bikers over 24 hours is a big, big number. Look at it this way: Bicyclists accounted for 22 percent of all traffic passing by that location on Milwaukee Avenue, according to the study. The average daily motor vehicle traffic count there was 11,117 in 2006. The 22 percent bike share casts a large shadow over a citywide average of less than 2 percent bikes on the road.

The number of bikes counted dropped to 2,083, still a respectable 16 percent bicycle-mode share, when a second count was conducted at 640 N. Milwaukee as the weather turned colder in November 2009.

"Those numbers are pretty incredible," said Ron Burke, executive director of the non-profit Active Transportation Alliance. "It's a function of having a bike lane there, population density and a community where biking is extremely popular."

The bike counts were conducted at 26 locations citywide on weekdays in the summer and fall of 2009 using automated pneumatic tube devices designed to count bicycles but not motorized vehicles. All except two of the locations are marked with on-street bikeways.

The study confirmed ample anecdotal evidence pointing to thousands of bicyclists



Six cyclists cross the intersection of Milwaukee and Grand avenues June 15, 2009. DAVID PIERINI/TRIBUNE FILE

traveling Chicago streets each weekday, officials said.

"These are numbers that you wouldn't have seen a few years ago," CDOT spokesman Brian Steele said. He credited the city's recent push to increase bike lanes by 8 miles each year.

Mayor-elect Rahm Emanuel has said he thinks Chicago could do even better. Emanuel said one of his top transportation priorities will be to build 25 miles of new bike lanes annually.

The data from the study, which will be conducted annually as part of Chicago's Bike 2015 master plan for bicycling (bike2015plan.org), will be used to determine where to invest next in creating bike lanes across Chicago, Steele said.

The Bike 2015 plan's two top goals are to increase bicycle use, so that 5 percent of all trips of less than five miles are by bicycle; and to reduce the number of bicycle injuries by 50 percent from current levels.

The plan also proposes a 500-mile bikeway network that connects within a half-mile of every Chicago resident. Today, Chicago has more than 100 miles of on-street bike lanes and more than 155 miles of signed bike routes.

There's a lot of room for improvement to get more people out of their cars, at least for some short trips, and onto bicycles. Overall, bicycles make up less than 2 percent of all vehicles on Chicago streets, according to CDOT.

"The study confirmed what we thought—that Chicago is seeing growing bike traffic,

even though the mode share on some streets is relatively small," Steele said.

More than 200 bicyclists were counted daily at 17 of the 26 locations studied. Additional locations where higher numbers of bicyclists were recorded include 1325 N. Wells St., 1616 N. Milwaukee Ave. and 2710 S. Halsted St., the study found.

No doubt, bike lanes attract bicyclists, as the study demonstrated a link between biking infrastructure the city has put in place and the high number of cyclists on those routes. All the high-count locations are along city-designated bicycle routes that are marked with either on-street bike-only lanes, combination bus-bike lanes or as a shared route for vehicles and bikes.

REDEYE'S KYLE KRAMER CONTRIBUTED.

A new lane, a new attitude?

Chicago Tribune

Biking: Chicagoans love it or hate it. But what's the hold-up for people who don't peddle?

"The perception of traffic danger is the No. 1 reason people cite for not biking on streets," said Dan Persky, education director at the Active Transportation Alliance, which advocates for safer streets in the Chicago area.

To that end, a new type of bike lane is being designed for Chicago to boost the confidence of cyclists that it's safe to ride on streets without fear of being struck by vehicles.

The special lane is called a cycle track, and it's unlike the regular marked bicycle lanes that run next to vehicle traffic lanes and are separated only by paint on pavement.

The key to a cycle track is a physical barricade, such as a construction barrier or a raised concrete planter box located to the left of the bikes-only lane. The curb or a sidewalk would exist to the right of the cycle track, and all motorized vehicles—whether moving or parked—would be on the left of the cycle track barricade.

The Chicago Department of Transportation recently received a \$3.2 million federal grant to build and test a cycle track. A section of Stony Island Avenue, between 69th and 77th streets, was selected for the experiment. Construction is expected in 2014.

The cycle track will be wider than a traditional 5-foot bike lane to provide space for whatever type of concrete barrier is chosen, officials said.

The Stony Island cycle track would be the first in Chicago. Cycle tracks are becoming increasingly common in other bicycle-friendly cities as a tool to encourage more travel by bike and less car use, especially on shorter trips.

Peter Nelson, 23, a cyclist from Wicker Park, said he thinks the tracks would encourage more bikers, but "I don't know if it would be safer."

He said a cyclist could still get into an accident in a separate bike lane. "Because you're out of the way, you're out of mind."

REDEYE'S KYLE KRAMER CONTRIBUTED.



**power
point**

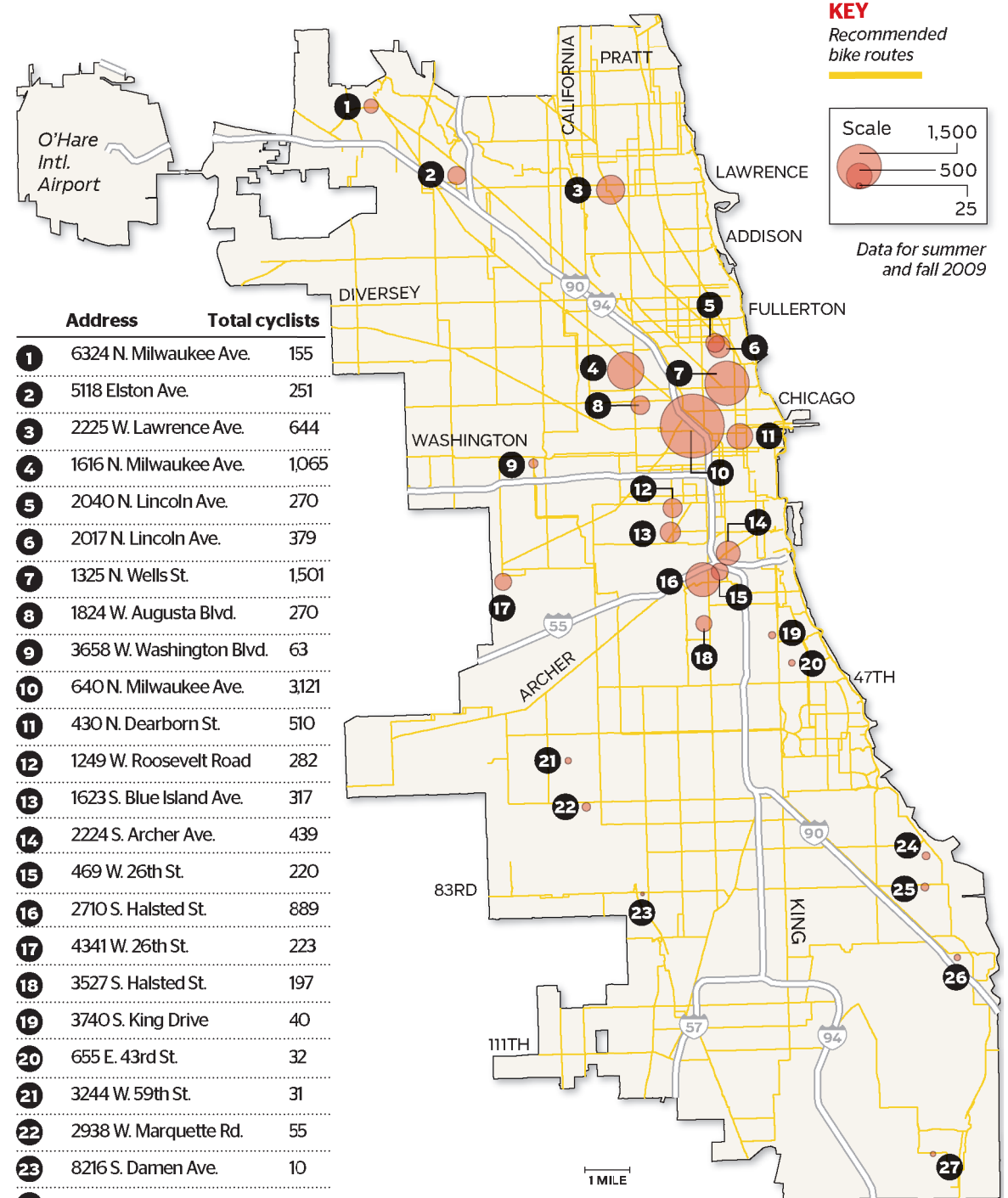
BRIAN MOORE
brmoore
@tribune.com

The problem isn't bike lanes

As a biker, you'd think I'd love new bike lanes, but I don't. What we really need in Chicago is for the current bike lanes to be more prominently marked. Even a wet surface can make it virtually impossible for drivers to see the lane markings. That's a start, but priority No. 1 is for drivers to learn the rules of the road and to not see bikers as an enemy. If there's more of us, there's less traffic for you to deal with.

The city's biking hot spots

In the summer and fall of 2009, the Chicago Department of Transportation's Bicycle Program counted how many cyclists passed select checkpoints. One of the goals was to help bicyclists choose safer routes.



NOTE: All of the count locations have marked, on-street bike lanes except for 130th Street and 43rd Street; the following have marked shared routes: 59th Street, Lawrence, Lincoln, 640 N. Milwaukee and 1616 N. Milwaukee.

SOURCE: Chicago Department of Transportation Division of Project Development Bicycle Program

TRIBUNE

@MayorEmanuel shocker

Columbia teacher says he was the mystery tweeter

Chicago Tribune

Dan Sinker, a journalism teacher at Columbia College, says he was behind the fictitious Twitter account **@MayorEmanuel**, a foul-mouthed double of the real candidate and mayor-elect Rahm Emanuel.

Sinker tells The Atlantic magazine his punk rock attitude and deep interest in Chicago politics led him to take on Emanuel's persona.

"My wife has asked me, 'Why did you actually start tweeting?' And for the life of me I can't remember," Sinker told the magazine. "I remember I was at home. I think everyone had gone to bed. And I remembered, 'Oh, I have that account. This might be kind of funny.'"

During the campaign, the tweets were popular for their absurdity and incessant profanity—the latter drawn from Emanuel's real-life affinity for four-letter words. And the make-believe Emanuel was prolific, posting nearly 2,000 tweets since late September.

The virtual Emanuel complained that he didn't know it was OK to bring a ventriloquist's dummy to a debate. And he marveled at a tiny model of Tokyo somebody gave him and couldn't wait to crush it while wearing a Godzilla suit.

The fake Emanuel even echoed the dismay of Chicago Bears fans with Jay Cutler when the quarterback left the NFC championship game early in the second half because of an injury. "Hey, Cutler, my knee hurt before I had to dance 'Swan Lake' once. And you know what? I [bleeping] danced the [bleep] out of it."

Now that the cat is out of the bag, Emanuel (the real one) says he will keep his commitment to donate \$5,000 to the charity of Sinker's choice. Details will follow in the coming days.

Columbia journalism student Cari Mirretti said she was stunned when she learned through Twitter (where else?) that her teacher was the fake Emanuel.

"I squealed when I found out," said Mirretti, who had Sinker for an introduction to journalism class last semester. "It's so crazy; I can't believe it."



Chemical fire in Edgewater

A man was critically burned Monday in a small chemical explosion inside an Edgewater car wash. The explosion occurred on the 5900 block of North Ridge Avenue, fire officials said.

Police link 2 men to murders

Two men arrested after a shootout with police on the North Side are believed responsible for at least three mass killings last year, all of them linked to drug dealing, law enforcement sources said Monday.

Lawyer says client will look 'crazy'

Marni Yang, whose trial begins Tuesday in the murder of the pregnant girlfriend of former Chicago Bears player Shaun Gayle, will look like a "crazy woman" if she's not allowed to have her hair done beforehand, her lawyer said Monday.

Daley: Weis expected to stay on for now

Mayor Daley said Monday he expected police Supt. Jody Weis to stay in his post through the end of Daley's term, even though Weis' contract expires Tuesday. "It's only about two months," said Daley, whose term runs until May 16, when Mayor-elect Rahm Emanuel will be sworn in.

Woman charged with DUI

A Cicero woman has been charged with felony driving under the influence after police allege she crashed through a barrier, flew over freight train tracks and came to rest on CTA Blue Line tracks at the Austin station in Oak Park early Friday morning. **TRIBUNE**



Education reform

1 Students light flares Monday near the Ukrainian parliament building in Kiev. They were rallying against the Ministry of Education for its initiative to reduce the number of educational institutions and change the tuition fee payment system. **REUTERS**



Miners visit Israel

2 The Chilean mine disaster survivors attend a baptism ritual Monday in the Jordan River in Israel. Two dozen of the Chilean miners are in Israel for a visit that will see them follow in Jesus's footsteps. **GETTY IMAGES**



Devastation

3 Locals recover belongings in La Paz, Bolivia, following landslides caused by heavy rains. More than 4,000 people were evacuated and 400 houses have been devastated. **GETTY IMAGES**

U.S. squeezes Gadhafi

4 **WASHINGTON** The U.S. moved warships and aircraft closer to Libya on Monday and froze \$30 billion in assets, ramping up pressure on what a top U.S. envoy called a "delusional" Moammar Gadhafi to relinquish power.

In the hardest-hitting U.S. denunciation yet of Libya's leader, U.S. ambassador to the U.N. Susan Rice said Gadhafi is "disconnected from reality," is "slaughtering his own people" and is unfit to lead.

The U.S. also pressed Gadhafi's inner circle to abandon their leader.

"You have to think very, very seriously which side you want to be on. ... You will be held accountable," White House spokesman Jay Carney said.

In the meantime, U.S. authorities are putting the financial squeeze on Gadhafi to pressure him to go.

A U.S. Treasury Department official said about \$30 billion in assets in the United States have been blocked from access by Gadhafi and his family. David Cohen, acting treasury under secretary for terrorism and financial intelligence, said the sum was the largest ever blocked.

Gadhafi appeared to shrug off the stepped-up pres-



FURTADO DONATES \$1 MILLION

Singer Nelly Furtado said Monday on Twitter that she will give away \$1 million she received to perform in Italy for the family of Libyan leader Moammar Gadhafi. A spokeswoman

for Furtado, a Canadian singer whose hits include "I'm Like a Bird" and "Promiscuous," could not be reached to say which group Furtado plans to designate for her donation.

sure in an interview with ABC's Christiane Amanpour, laughing when asked if he would step down and insisting that Libyans loved him.

Asked about Gadhafi's comments, Rice said: "It sounds just, frankly, delusional. And when he can laugh in talking to ... an international journalist while he is slaughtering his own people, it only underscores how unfit he is to lead and how disconnected he is from reality."

16 killed at Carnival celebration

5 At least 16 Brazilian Carnival revelers were killed and dozens more wounded when a power cable fell and electrocuted them as they danced behind a sound truck. The high-voltage line fell during celebrations late Sunday in the town of Bandeira do Sul in the southwestern state of Minas Gerais, the state's firefighting service said.



Astronauts perform space station work

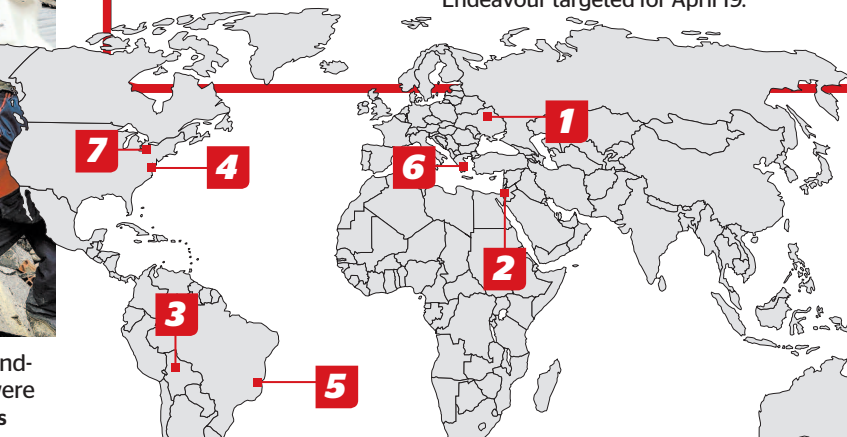
Two NASA astronauts ventured outside the International Space Station on Monday to prepare the orbital outpost for life after the U.S. retires its fleet of three space shuttles. At the Kennedy Space Center, NASA was preparing for another finale—the launch of shuttle Endeavour targeted for April 19.

World's most flirtatious city? Athens

6 The home of Socrates, Plato and Aristotle is the "most flirtatious city" of the modern world, a new study showed Monday. Athens topped a "World Flirtation League," which ranked cities by the number of online flirtations initiated per month by the average user on the social networking site **badoo.com**. Moscow was second.

Bomber sentenced to life in prison

7 Marjorie Diehl-Armstrong was sentenced to life in prison plus 30 years Monday for her role in an Erie, Pa., bank robbery that led to the death of a pizza deliveryman who had a pipe bomb fastened around his neck, a prosecutor said. Brian Wells died when the bomb exploded after he was stopped by police shortly after the robbery.



THE DIGIT

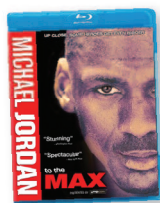
40,000

That's the estimated number of Gmail users whose accounts disappeared Sunday night, according to **wired.com**. Gmail said Monday that it was in the process of restoring those accounts.

sports

Daily plan-it

It's said that March comes in like a lion and out like a lamb. In sports, it's just called March Madness. Yes, perhaps the most anticipated sporting event other than the Super Bowl dominates March, but it's not just college basketball. Here's your sports guide to all that this month offers. **REDEYE**



1 'MICHAEL JORDAN TO THE MAX'

This 2000 documentary, new to Blu Ray, chronicles the last of Michael Jordan's seasons as a Bull—and the last time the team won an NBA title.



TRIBUNE FILE

5 PBR CHICAGO INVITATIONAL 6:50 p.m. Saturday, United Center
Not a bad way to spend a Saturday night for as little as \$15. No bull.

6 BULLS AT HEAT
Noon ABC

7 BULLS VS. NEW ORLEANS
7 p.m. United Center. TV: CSN

11 WHITE SOX VS. CUBS
2:05 p.m. CSN

14 BLACKHAWKS VS. SAN JOSE
7 p.m. United Center. TV: Vs. Welcome back, Antti Niemi.

13 SELECTION SUNDAY 5 p.m. CBS
The 68 teams that will vie for the college basketball title are announced. Gamblers all over empty their wallets.

MCT FILE

18 RUSH VS. PHILADELPHIA
7 p.m. Allstate Arena

20 NCAA TOURNAMENT
United Center
We don't know the teams or times, but we know it's madness!

19 NCAA TOURNAMENT
third round
The road to Houston continues.

2 BULLS AT ATLANTA
6 p.m. WCIU
If Bulls want to make a run at the No. 1 seed, they'll have to prove they can win on the road.

4 WHITE SOX AT L.A. ANGELS
2:05 p.m. MLB Network

9 BLACKHAWKS AT TAMPA BAY
6:30 p.m. CSN

12 STARS ON ICE
7:30 p.m. Allstate Arena
See Chicago-area skaters **Evan Lysacek** and Benjamin Agosto. They'll break out moves that would make Patrick Kane's jaw hit the floor.

21 BULLS VS. SACRAMENTO
7 p.m. United Center. TV: CSN

» 'MLB 11: THE SHOW' PS3, PS2
» 'MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL 2K11' PS3, Xbox 360, Wii
Play ball at home with these dueling baseball video games.



10 BIG TEN BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT
1:30 p.m., 3:30 p.m. ESPN2, 6:30 p.m. Big Ten Network
Northwestern will likely be playing in one of these games as the Wildcats try to make the NCAA tourney.



TRIBUNE FILE

15 'TOP SPIN 4'
Wii, PS3, Xbox 360
Do your best Andre Agassi impression in your living room. No need to shave your head, though.

16 NCAA TOURNAMENT
first round
These games will establish the field of 64.

17 NCAA TOURNAMENT
second round
A full day of buzzer-beaters, colossal upsets and did-that-just-happens?



NUCCIO DINUZZO/TRIBUNE



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» **CRITICAL MASS MONTHLY BIKE RIDE**
5:30 p.m. Daley Plaza
» **CHICAGO SLAUGHTER VS. KENT**
7:35 p.m. Sears Centre Arena, Hoffman Estates

CUBS VS. SOX
4:05 p.m. CSN

NCAA TOURNAMENT REGIONALS
The final eight teams are cut to the Final Four.

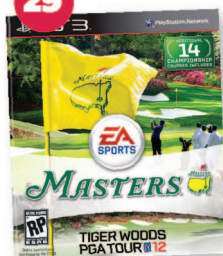
WWE MONDAY NIGHT RAW
7:15 p.m.
Allstate Arena

MCDONALD'S ALL AMERICAN HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL GAMES
6:30 p.m.
United Center
See future college and NBA stars before they become too self-aware.

OPENING DAY FOR BASEBALL
Cubs and White Sox do not play.

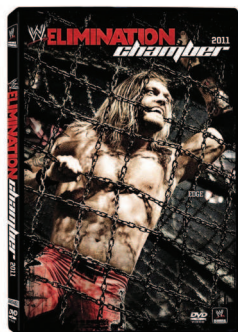
STEEL VS. WATERLOO
7:30 p.m. Edge Ice Arena, Bensenville
Yes, another hockey team plays in the Chicago area. And on this night they are playing the Black Hawks. Eerie.

FIRST ROBOTICS COMPETITION
9 a.m. UIC Pavilion
Think "Minute to Win It" with robots and no one-minute time limit and a bunch of other technical rules.



'TIGER WOODS PGA TOUR '12'
Wii, Xbox 360, PS3

'WWE: ELIMINATION CHAMBER 2011'
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1 Make a sports prediction for March.	Benny the Bull has an embarrassing mix-up and ends up as part of the Blackhawks' Ice Crew.	LeBron will film "The King James' Speech": "I will t-t-t-take my t-t-t-talents ..."	The NCAA tournament will be canceled. Heard it here first.	The Ohio State Buckeyes will be crowned the 2011 NCAA champs in college hoops.	One word: Madness.
2 Cubs and Sox spring training games have begun. Who has more to prove?	The Cubs have to prove they still belong in the major leagues.	The Cubs don't even have a public address announcer. They are not ready.	Sox. It's been more than a half-decade since they won a World Series.	The Cubs, as usual. It's been 102 years and counting since their last World Series title.	The Sox—the Cubs are always the loveable losers.
3 What's the best thing about college basketball's conference tournaments?	Basketball games around the clock. If you can stand the likes of the Colonial League.	They give any schlub a chance to make the tourney, "schlub" being Latin for "Northwestern."	The end.	The underdog has a chance to shine in the spotlight. Go Northwestern and Illinois.	A reason to party.
4 March is here. You know what that means, right?	Of course. The annual first-weekend of the NCAA tourney snowstorm. Book it.	Time to stock up on tourney-kits: If you insist on making a bracket, they stop the bleeding.	Another month went by without me making the cover of Fortune.	Beer, broads and brackets. Not necessarily in that order.	Lent?
5 We're low on questions. Insert yours here.	Why don't you just do your job?	Did you see Braylon Edwards' claymation self on his birthday cake? Poor taste—literally.	Phil Thompson: creepy or creepiest?	Which will happen first, Northwestern making the tourney or the Cubs winning the World Series?	Whose sports entourage would you want to be part of in March?

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The Bulls' Derrick Rose (right) drives to the basket Monday. GETTY IMAGES

BULLS 105, WIZARDS 77

D.C. COMEDY

Bulls dominate Wizards for 105-77 road win

WASHINGTON The Bulls' signature play Monday night was not rehearsed. It was sweet and spontaneous, like a child's laughter.

Derrick Rose made a steal, thundered to the rim and then tricked defender John Wall by making a leaping, backward, between-the-legs feed to Joakim Noah, who slammed it home.

"That was nice, wasn't it?" Noah said after the Bulls' dominant 105-77 victory. "I knew he saw me."

The Bulls' defense-first coach, Tom Thibodeau, took just enough of a break from lauding his team's rebounding and bench to express his admiration for the play.

"You don't get any extra points for that," Thibodeau said, "but he has the ability to do a lot of different things. He has great vision and is so unselfish."

Rose said of the move: "It wasn't pre-planned or anything. I wanted to make it very easy, where Joakim either finished or

NEW BULL?

Veteran swingman Rasual Butler, bought out by the Clippers on Sunday, is a strong candidate to sign with the Bulls on Wednesday after clearing waivers. Butler, who averaged a career-high 11.9 points last season, also is said to be drawing interest from the Celtics, Hawks and Thunder. "I haven't heard anything about it," Bulls coach Tom Thibodeau said Monday.

got fouled."

Taj Gibson grabbed seven boards and blocked three shots despite tweaking an ankle, according to Thibodeau, in 20-plus minutes. Kyle Korver went 3-for-6 from long range, and Brian Scalabrine entertained the fans who called for him in the game's final minutes by swishing a 19-foot fadeaway.

Noah was so active (19 points, 11 rebounds) in his fourth game back from thumb surgery, Thibodeau said: "He's back almost to the point where he was before the injury. His activity is off the charts."

BLACKHAWKS 4, MINNESOTA 2

Jonathan Toews had a goal and two assists. Patrick Sharp a goal and assist and Marian Hossa and Tomas Kopecky also scored as the Hawks defeated the Minnesota Wild 4-2 on Monday night for their fifth consecutive victory.

» Bears defensive tackle Tommie Harris, who was due \$3 million in bonuses before the start of the 2011 season and had a base salary of more than \$2.3 million, was released Monday along with linebacker Hunter Hillenmeyer and offensive tackle Kevin Shaffer.

» Milwaukee 5, Cubs 3 » L.A. Dodgers 6, White Sox 5 » North Dakota 74, Chicago St. 52

from news services **shortstops**

Is LeBron still legend material?

Perhaps the haters are wrong about LeBron James.

Maybe he knew exactly what he was doing when he took his talents to South Beach. Maybe leaving Cleveland was harder than he made it look. Maybe he couldn't care less that Michael Jordan, Larry Bird and Magic Johnson are on record that they never would have made the same decision.



chris
sosa

chsosa@
tribune.com

Muffled in all the backlash over James' summer PR disaster—he was booed relentlessly at the United Center on Thursday—is that he's still the two-time reigning league MVP. It's not an accident that the Heat have gone 34-9 since a "nightmarish" 9-8 start, or that he's averaging 26.2 points, 7.5 rebounds and 7.2 assists this season.

When James joined Dwyane Wade and Chris Bosh in Miami, it ignited the "he'll forever be a sidekick" talk. Not so fast. Scottie Pippen had Jordan's back for all six Bulls championships. Bird and Magic were surrounded by Hall of Famers—Kevin McHale, Robert Parish, Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, James Worthy—when they won titles, and does anyone question their hoops immortality? Um, no.

If we're measuring players in the "best NBA player ever" discussion by how much superstar help they have, I suppose Derrick Rose should be considered lucky. Carlos Boozer and Joakim Noah don't stack up to Wade and Bosh in terms of offensive firepower, and for that reason Rose probably has a leg up in the MVP race starting this year.

Then again, as James can attest, that's not much consolation if the Bulls continually get smacked down in the playoffs for the next decade. (They still must prove they can beat Miami and Boston on the road, by the way.)

It comes down to this: Because James' all-around game is so stellar, three championships—as many as Bird—are what it should take to put him in on the level of the aforementioned icons. Same goes for D-Rose.

Of course, if Rose and James start piling up rings, we'll have one more tool with which to compare them to the game's titans: NBA Finals MVPs.



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metromix

MARCH SURVIVAL GUIDE

31 WAYS TO MARCH INTO SPRING

By Jessica Galliard

The mushing through the slush, the early morning window scraping ritual and, oh, surviving that big ol' blizzard—it wasn't all for naught. Spring officially begins March 20, but you have plenty of options for kicking off the pleasing season long before that. (More event details are at metromix.com.)

JESSICA GALLIART IS THE METROMIX EVENTS PRODUCER. JGALLIART@TRIBUNE.COM



1 Pay tribute to Cubs legends at the 13th annual Worldwide Toast to Harry Caray, featuring a special nod to Ron Santo, at Harry Caray's, 33 W. Kinzie St.



2 Get redemption for that time you botched "disappointment" in fourth grade at The Whistler's (2421 N. Milwaukee Ave.) first spelling bee.



3 Listen to Chicago darling and former Fall Out Boy frontman Patrick Stump's first solo album at Schuba's (3159 N. Southport Ave.).

6 Skip lunch and join The Pocket Guide to Hell Tour's re-enactment of the 1915 hunger march of unemployed Chicagoans, stepping off from the Jane Addams Hull-House Museum, 800 S. Halsted St.

7 Get pumped for the return of spring and nature at the Chicago Flower and Garden Show at Navy Pier (600 E. Grand Ave.), with more than 25 gardens on display.

8 Party it up for Fat Tuesday with cover band Wedding Banned and all-you-can-grab beads at Uncle Fatty's Rum Resort, 2833 N. Sheffield Ave.



9 See what caught Oprah's attention at the individual finals of Louder Than a Bomb, the world's largest teen poetry festival, at Victory Gardens Biograph Theater, 2433 N. Lincoln Ave.

10 Trade the pay-per-view party for a real-life match at the Golden Gloves Boxing Tournament at Gordon Tech High School, 3633 N. California Ave.



13 Replenish yourself after green day festivities with an Irish brunch at D4 Irish Pub & Cafe (345 E. Ohio St.), as part of the pub's weeklong Irish Fest.

14 Meet rock stars of the lit world at the start of Chicago Story Week, Columbia College Chicago's six-day literary extravaganza at venues that span the city.

15 Put on your big-boy bib for Mac Madness mac 'n' cheese specials all week at Rockit Bar & Grill, 22 W. Hubbard St.



16 Chow down at the 19th annual Great Chefs Tasting Party at the Sheraton (301 E. North Water St.), featuring dishes from more than 40 Chicago chefs to benefit United Cerebral Palsy of Greater Chicago.

17 Take it easy this special St. Patrick's Day thirsty Thursday by catching a free ride on the Miller Lite shuttle, running through the Loop and the North Side.

20 Set your nerd heart aflutter by meeting your favorite celebs of the comic world at the Chicago Comic and Entertainment Expo at McCormick Place, 2301 S. Lake Shore Drive.

21 Get ready for some slinging and swinging at a rock-'n'-roll mud wrestling match, hosted by the Mud Queens of Chicago at the Viaduct Theatre, 3111 N. Western Ave.

22 Pamper yourself for less at one of dozens of spas and salons offering half-off treatments for nationwide Wellness Week.



23 Rejoice at this month's return of Debonair Social Club's (1575 N. Milwaukee Ave.) No Tell Motel, with burlesque and other risqué performances every Wednesday night.



24 Resist the urge to sing—or dance—along at Gorilla Tango Theatre's (1919 N. Milwaukee Ave.) "Glee and Freaks: A 'Glee' Burlesque Musical," the latest nerdy burlesque parody to hit the theater scene.

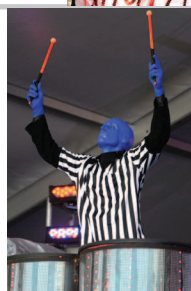
27 Impress the roommate with snazzy wall art from the International Vintage Poster Fair, an exhibit of more than 10,000 works from the 1890s through the 1980s, at the Chicago Cultural Center, 77 E. Randolph St.

28 Yuk it up with the best of Chicago's emerging comics at the monthly Crystal Pistol Showcase at Zanies Comedy Night Club, 1548 N. Wells St.



29 Bring moral support—and an extra arm for squeezing—to a screening of 1950s classic horror film "Diabolique," part of the Gene Siskel Film Center's (164 N. State St.) Mask of Sanity psychological horror film series.

30 Bring a poncho to a Blue Man Group show at Briar Street Theatre (3133 N. Halsted St.), with new material incorporating "GiPads."



31 See how a musical rendition of "The Big Lebowski" really ties the room together at iO (3541 N. Clark St.) in "The Dude Abides."

SUNDAY

MONDAY

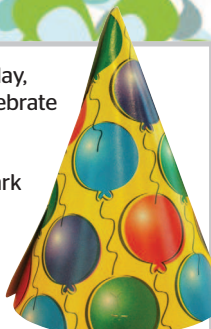
TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY



4 Happy birthday, Chicago! Celebrate 174 years young at the Chicago History Museum (1601 N. Clark St.) with free music, presentations and cake from Bleeding Heart Bakery.



5 Witness the spectacle that is Chiditarod, Chicago's shopping cart rendition of the classic Iditarod races, as you help teams collect food items for charity and mush to the finish line. Starting line is at Wolcott Avenue and Hubbard Street.

11 Sweat it out at a special Mayhem at The Mid (306 N. Halsted St.) night, with DJ phenom Diplo manning the turntables.



12 Prep your liver for the unofficial St. Patrick's Day partying after the 56th annual parade along Columbus Drive and the dyeing of the Chicago River.



18 Test your stomach of steel at the opening of the "Body Worlds & the Cycle of Life" exhibit at the Museum of Science and Industry, 5700 S. Lake Shore Drive.

19 Pack a pillow and get comfortable at Music Box Theatre (3733 N. Southport Ave.) for Sci-Fi Spectacular 5's 14 hours of sci-fi screenings and fun.

25 Channel your inner band geek with your favorite 30-piece punk marching band, Mucca Pazza, at Mayne Stage, 1328 W. Morse Ave.



26 Catch a case of the belly laughs when stand-up comedian and professed bed-wetter Sarah Silverman (left) stops through the Chicago Theatre (175 N. State St.) on her comedy tour.

FRIDAY

SATURDAY



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MAJOR LEAUGE MELTDOWN

Charlie Sheen shifts rant machine into overdrive in bizarre interviews

Reuters

Charlie Sheen had quite a Monday.

The beleaguered "Two and a Half Men" star escalated his recent rants against his former employers, demanding a pay raise and threatening a lawsuit in a series of TV interviews that caused his spokesman to quit.

Sheen, whose erratic behavior has put the future of his top-rated TV comedy in jeopardy, boasted on Monday morning talk shows about his partying lifestyle and said he was tired of pretending he is not "a total frigging rock star from Mars."

"I'm tired of pretending like I'm not special," he said. "You can't process me with a normal brain."

Hours later, his longtime L.A. publicist quit working for the actor, saying he could no longer do his job.

"I have worked with Charlie Sheen for a long time and I care about him very much. However, at this time, I'm unable to work effectively as his publicist and have respectfully resigned," Stan Rosenfield said in a statement.

Rosenfield has remained publicly silent in recent days in the face of Sheen's self-propelled media onslaught.

Sheen, who pulls in about \$2 million an episode and is the highest-paid actor on TV, launched several expletive-filled rants last week against "Two and a Half Men" creator Chuck Lorre, causing CBS and the show's makers, Warner Bros. Television, to cancel production of the show for the rest of the season.

On Monday, the 45-year-old actor told ABC news in an interview aired on "Good Morning America" that he would defend

Is he on drugs?

ABC News and celebrity website RadarOnline had Sheen's blood and urine tested, and revealed no drugs in his system for the past 72 hours. "I am on a drug. It's called Charlie Sheen. It's not available because if you try it once, you will die," Sheen said in the ABC interview. **REUTERS**

himself through "violent hatred" aimed at him, and he felt let down the show was stopped.

"I was actually disappointed," Sheen said. "People misinterpret my passion for anger."

Asked if he would sue, he said: "Wouldn't you? I don't have a job. I have a whole family to support and love."

... I am here to collect and they are going to lose."

He continued, saying he would sue for "tons."

"I'm going to actually put it on a scale and be like 'little more, little more, ah.' Add some gold; bingo!" Sheen told interviewer Andrea Canning.

He said his attack on producer Lorre, which some suggested had anti-Semitic overtones, had been misinterpreted.

"I feel terrible about it," he said before addressing Lorre directly. "I just thought, you know, after you wailing on me for eight years, that I could, like, take a few shots back."

Warner Bros. said it had no comment on Sheen's latest remarks. CBS was silent.

Speculation has been rife about whether "Two and a Half Men" would continue next season, with or without Sheen's leading role as a womanizing bachelor.

He told NBC's "Today" show on Monday that returning would require a pay rise, saying the roughly \$2 million per episode he makes now is too low. "I am a man of my word, so I will finish the TV show. I'll even do Season 10, but at this point, [because of] psychological distress, oh my God, it's \$3 mil an episode. Take it or leave it," he said. **ABC PHOTO**

With the man out, 'Men' money keeps rolling in

CNN

The good news for the producers of "Two and a Half Men" is that Charlie Sheen's meltdown happened during the show's eighth season, and not the first.

With 177 episodes in the can, the hit show can live on for years in reruns, throwing off cash in syndication revenue for Warner Bros.—and plenty of spending money for the troubled actor.

"'Two and a Half Men' will bring in more than \$600 million in syndication for Warner Bros. Television in the years to come, said Brad Adgate, senior vice president of research at Horizon Media.

Industry insiders estimate that the show already has grossed \$400 million in reruns, putting total syndication fees at a cool \$1 billion.

"They have so many seasons of those episodes; it's one of the most successful shows

in syndication," said David Joyce, media analyst for Miller Tabak. He estimates that the show will bring in \$250 million annually in upcoming syndication revenue. "They'll be generating plenty of cash flow in years to come."



QUOTABLE

A few of the memorable lines from Charlie Sheen's interviews Monday.
FROM NEWS SERVICES

**"THE RUN I WAS ON
MADE SINATRA, FLYNN,
JAGGER, RICHARDS, ALL
OF THEM JUST LOOK
LIKE DROOPY-EYED
ARMLESS CHILDREN."**

***"You
can't
process
me with
a normal
brain."***

"I am on a
drug. It's called
Charlie Sheen.
It's not available
because if you
try it once,
you will die."

***"People misinterpret
my passion for anger."***

"I fixed myself.
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you're going
to do and
just do it."

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	2009 Toyota Scion tC Red, Pwr, Sharp, #P15109J \$13,977		2005 GMC Envoy XL Loaded, LTR, Red, White, #P15109K \$13,977		2009 Kia Rondo Silver, Auto, CD, Pwr, #P15109L \$13,977		2009 Pontiac Vibe White, Sport, CD, Auto, #MP15174 \$14,577		2009 Honda Civic 4 Dr, Red, 5K Miles, Auto, #46859B \$15,977		2008 Mercury Milan Premier, V6, LTR, Red, #P15109M \$16,377		2008 Ford Taurus Ltd AWD, LTR, Red, Must See, #10753A \$16,777
	2007 Ford Edge SE Loaded, V6, Nice, Black, #P15109N \$16,877		2009 Ford Mustang V6 BK, Auto, Pwr, LTR, #11179A \$16,977		2010 Dodge Charger BK, Auto, 30K Miles, #P15109O \$16,977		2010 Dodge Grand Caravan SXT Pwr Doors, Rear AC, Loaded, #P15109P \$18,577		2010 Ford E150 Cargo V6, PWR, PL, AC, #P15109Q \$18,577		2007 Ford Edge BK, New, LTR, Nice, #47021A \$18,977		2008 Honda Accord EXL LTR, Red, Loaded, Full Pwr, #11037A \$18,977
	2008 Chevy Silverado 1500 4x4, Auto, 3500 Miles, Blue, #47021A \$18,977		2010 Chevy Express Cargo 2500 V6, AC, #P15109R \$18,977		2008 Honda Pilot EX 4x4, LTR, Miles, 3rd Row, #P15109S \$25,477		2008 BMW 135i Conv. Red, Auto, LTR, Nice, #P15109T \$26,477		2010 Ford E350 & Econoline 350 White, Auto, CD, PWR/PL, #P15109U \$27,277		2008 Ford F150 Crew Cab F4A, 4x4, Low Miles, Silver, Auto, #47103B \$28,577		2009 Ford Explorer Limited New, Red, LTR, Black, #47059A \$28,777



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8		1						
	7		8	4		3	1	
				9		5		
7					9		2	1
1				7				3
9	6		5					8
		7		5				
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						1		5

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5	1	8	3	7	9	4	2	6
6	4	7	1	8	2	9	5	3
2	3	9	6	4	5	7	1	8
9	5	4	2	6	8	1	3	7
7	6	2	4	3	1	5	8	9
1	8	3	9	5	7	6	4	2
3	9	5	7	2	4	8	6	1
4	2	1	8	9	6	3	7	5
8	7	6	5	1	3	2	9	4

MONDAY'S SOLUTIONS

G	L	A	D	E		H	A	V	E		B	A	R	E
L	A	T	E	X		O	W	E	S		A	G	E	D
A	T	O	N	E		S	E	T	S		C	R	A	G
D	E	P	I	C	T	E	D		A	P	I	E	C	E
			A	U	R	A		E	Y	E	L	E	T	S
S	V	E	L	T	E		E	A	S	E	L			
P	I	G		E	A	R	N	S		K	U	D	O	S
A	L	O	G		T	O	T	E	D		S	A	N	E
M	E	S	A	S		M	E	D	I	C		T	E	N
			R	A	R	E	R		A	R	R	E	S	T
S	H	A	M	P	O		O		K	N	E	E		
C	A	R	E	S		S		R	I	E	S	L	I	N
A	N	O	N		T	E	A	L		T	I	B	I	A
L	O	S	T		E	V	I	L		E	V	I	C	T
D	I	E	S		R	E	D	S		D	E	S	K	S

ACROSS

- 1 Untainted
- 5 Stop
- 10 Alpha's follower
- 14 Unlock
- 15 Peptic _; stomach woe
- 16 Enthusiastic
- 17 Pillar
- 18 Little more than a quart
- 19 Robin or hawk
- 20 Ensnare
- 22 Small stones
- 24 Greek letter
- 25 Olympics prize
- 26 Embankment
- 29 El _; Spanish hero
- 30 Barking marine mammals
- 34 Imaginary line around which a planet rotates
- 35 Religious sister
- 36 Center
- 37 Soft, wet dirt
- 38 Model of perfection
- 40 Owned
- 41 Make happy
- 43 Massage
- 44 Actress Downey
- 45 Expressionless
- 46 Jewel
- 47 _ pie; dessert with nuts
- 48 Group of eight
- 50 Pod vegetable
- 51 Move like a snake
- 54 Those who examine text or films to remove unfit material
- 58 "Be quiet!"
- 59 Monastery superior
- 61 October's birthstone
- 62 Eye flirtatiously
- 63 Colander
- 64 Pleasant
- 65 Graceful animal
- 66 Firstborn of two
- 67 Grain; kernel

DOWN

- 1 Vatican leader
- 2 Atop

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14					15						16			
17					18						19			
20				21				22		23				
			24				25							
26	27	28				29				30	31	32	33	
34					35				36					
37				38				39				40		
41			42				43				44			
45						46				47				
				48		49			50					
51	52	53						54				55	56	57
58						59		60				61		
62						63						64		
65						66						67		

- 3 Nap
- 4 Main courses
- 5 Mea _; words admitting fault
- 6 Wallach et al.
- 7 Perform
- 8 Oozed
- 9 Goofed
- 10 Chattered
- 11 Immoral
- 12 Grow weary
- 13 Finds a total
- 21 Feasted
- 23 Sink
- 25 Mosque tower
- 26 Light sources
- 27 Rejoice
- 28 Audio's mate
- 29 Mongrel
- 31 _ committee; group formed for a specific purpose
- 32 Peruvian beast
- 33 Family car
- 35 Scottish refusal
- 36 Unruly crowd
- 38 _ out; intimidate
- 39 Juicy Fruit, e.g.
- 42 Additional one
- 44 Motives
- 46 Child's pet
- 47 Writing tool
- 49 Josh with
- 50 Actor Ustinov
- 51 Not barefoot
- 52 Sled race
- 53 Isolated land
- 54 Sheltered bay
- 55 Mayberry boy
- 56 Marathon
- 57 Toboggan
- 60 Sleeping place

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Department of Dermatology, Northwestern University
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GETTY IMAGES

LOVE SOUNDS

MUSICIAN OR ACTOR—WHICH TIMBERLAKE DO YOU PREFER?

While we've seen plenty of Justin Timberlake on the big and small screens of late, our ears are yearning for the star to return to his musical roots. Fortunately we just might be getting our wish, as JT told Entertainment Weekly on Sunday he's headed back to the studio and "not retired from music." In preparation for Justin getting his sexy voice back, RedEye pondered which version we like more, singer Justin or actor Justin. Here's how we see it—and hear it.

By Dana Moran
REDEYE

ACTOR JUSTIN



Timberlake made his debut as a 19-year-old supermodel in the made-for-TV movie "Model Behavior," telling EW he wouldn't mind if it led to "a TV series or a feature film."



JT keeps popping up on "Saturday Night Live," including the earth-shattering "[Bleep] in a Box." Oh yeah, and as a booger on "The Cleveland Show."

Winner: "[Bleep] in a Box" changed our lives. Also, that Omeletteville sketch was hilarious.



He tends to fly under the radar, though rumors often fly about the stability of his relationship with Jessica Biel.



Started the William Rast clothing line with friend Trace Ayala in 2007. The brand also features an inexpensive line sold at Target stores.

Winner: We're all about fashion for the people. Plus, eesh, that 'fro!



We loved him as scheming Sean Parker in "The Social Network." We refuse to see him as Boo Boo in "Yogi Bear."

OLDER PROJECTS



His ears probably still are ringing from the screams of teenage girls (and their moms) during his 'N Sync days.

Winner: Remember the "Bye Bye Bye" dance? Don't try denying it.



He has appeared on tracks for The Black Eyed Peas, Timbaland and Madonna.

CAMEOS



Super Bowl. 2004. Janet Jackson. Nipple. That is all.

Winner: After all, this was the origin of the phrase "wardrobe malfunction."

SCANDAL



Giant hair and baggy pants during the 'N Sync days, sleek and sexy as a solo artist.

STYLE



Both his solo albums are awesome, so we're gonna have to roll back in time and say that we didn't much care for 'N Sync's "Celebrity."

Winner: His albums are dance-around-your-bedroom-like-a-fool good.

BEST/WORST WORK

SINGER JUSTIN

OVERALL WINNER

Singer Justin. While he's grown a lot as an actor, "FutureSex/LoveSounds" came out in 2006, and we're more than ready for some new jams!



AP FILE PHOTO

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Sexiest workout ever

How do Jessica Biel and Eva Longoria

stay fit? By joining Jimmy K's Hottie Body Hump Club and buying the Humpilates DVD workout, of course. In a counterpoint to last year's "Handsomen Men's Club" sketch, Jimmy Kimmel collected a handful of Hollywood beauties to promote his fake program during Sunday's post-Oscars show. "The Jimmy K program is so affordable, it's practically a steal," he says. "Allegedly," Lindsay Lohan adds. Touche!

Give them a 'Voice'

Watch out, "American Idol." NBC's new singing competition, "The Voice," has signed Cee Lo Green and Maroon 5 singer Adam Levine as judges, producers told **ew.com**. The show will debut April 26 with a two-hour special, the site reports. No word on whether Green will bring back his bird costume from the Grammys.



CONVERSING

COUPLE METER

Taylor Swift and Chord Overstreet

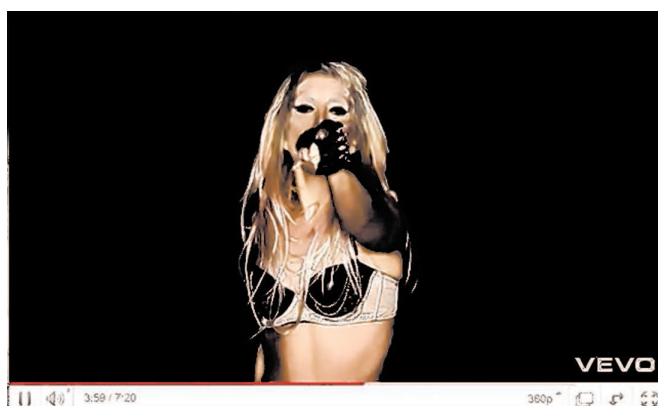
Could there BE a more perfect guy for Swift? The country singer and the "Glee" cutie (above) were spotted recently at a hockey game and a pre-Oscars party, **online.com** reports. We've got a good feeling about this one. GETTY IMAGES PHOTO

Let's dance

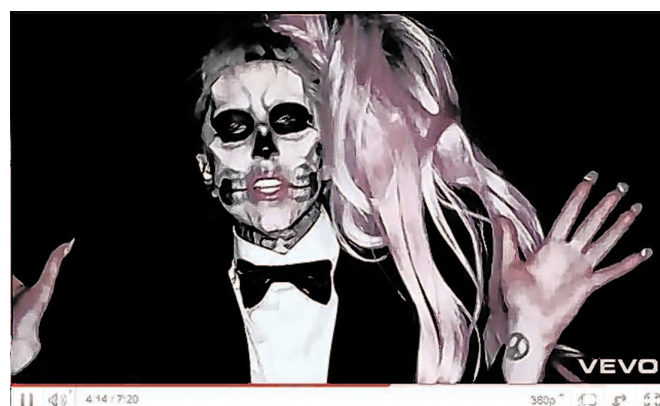
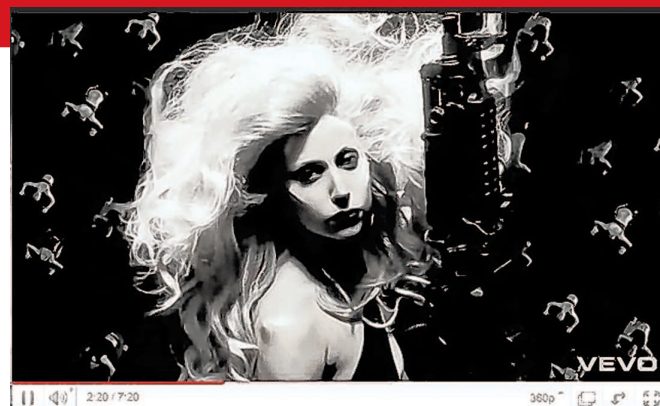
Stars? Well, they insist. Reality TV personality Kendra Wilkinson-Baskett, original Karate Kid Ralph Macchio and rapper Romeo are among the latest crop of—cough, cough—stars to take on "Dancing With the Stars," **online.com** reported Monday. The new season starts March 21. Break a leg, guys. On second thought ...

Oscar takes a fall

Maybe an infusion of "hip" and "young" isn't what the Academy Awards needed. The ratings for Sunday's Oscars, co-hosted by James Franco and Anne Hathaway, were down 9 percent from 2010's show with 37.6 million viewers, according to **thr.com**. On the bright side: The Oscars remained the most-watched awards show of the season.



SPACED OUT



Lady Gaga wasn't just performing at the United Center on Monday—she also released the video for her new song, "Born This Way," online. The vid starts with a bizarre birth scene in outer space and ends with the pop queen blowing a gum bubble while wearing skeleton makeup. We won't even try to explain what happens between those moments.

12

DIGIT

Showtime has ordered a 12-episode second season of "Shameless," which means the drama can return to Chicago for filming later this year. The show stars Chicago native Joan Cusack, William H. Macy (right) and Emmy Rossum. SHOWTIME PHOTO

